

MINUTES  
OF THE  
SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
NORTH RIVER  
Baptist \* Association,

HELD WITH  
PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH,  
Walker County, Alabama,  
SEPTEMBER 18th and 19th, 1900.

OFFICERS:

W. B. APPLING, - Moderator, - Jasper, Ala.  
J. S. WATTS, - Clerk, - - Oakman, Ala.

The next session to be held with Providence Church,  
Walker county, Ala., three and one-half miles East  
of Oakman, Commencing on Tuesday before the  
Fourth Sunday in September, 1901,  
at 10 o'clock a. m.

JASPER, ALA.

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1900.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS.



1. Devotional Exercises.
2. Read Constitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum.
3. Presentation of Letters from the Churches.
4. Election of Officers.
5. Call for Petitionary Letters.
6. Invite Ministers not Delegates to seats.
7. Receive Correspondence.
8. Return Correspondence.
9. Appoint special Committees:
  1. On Religious Exercises.
  2. On Documents and Requests.
  3. On Nominations.
  4. On Finance.
10. Call for report of Standing Committees:
  1. On Sunday Schools.
  2. Report of Superintendents of Sunday School Districts
  3. On Young People's Union.
  4. On Temperance.
  5. On State Missions.
  6. On Home Missions.
  7. On Foreign Missions.
  8. On Denominational Education.
  9. On Religious Literature.
  10. On Orphans' Home.
  11. On Prayer and Prayer Meetings.
  12. On Aged and Infirm Ministers.
11. Report of Treasurer.
12. Appoint Treasurer.
13. Call for Report of Special Committees.
  1. On Documents and Requests.
  2. On Nominations.
  3. On Finance.
14. Report of Executive Committee.
15. Appoint Standing Committees.
16. Miscellaneous Business.
17. Read Minutes, Call Roll and Adjourn.

## PROCEEDINGS.

The Sixty-Sixth Annual Session of the NORTH RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION met at Pleasant Grove church, Walker county, Ala., on Tuesday, Sept. 18, 1900. The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. James Hilton. Devotional exercises conducted by Rev. J. H. Longrier which consisted in singing "Amazing Grace" and prayer. The reading of the Constitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum were dispensed with.

### PRESENTATION OF LETTERS FROM THE CHURCHES.

Brethern J. I. McCollum and H. G. Amerson were appointed to read the letters.

### LIST OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES.

Bethabara—W. O. Brown.

Bethlehem—J. M. Ausburn, J. S. Jones and W. L. Jones.

Berry Station—A. J. Hocutt and L. F. Gammon.

Carbon Hill—J. I. McCullom, R. H. Murray, John Drake, Wm. Hansell, D. M. Watts.

Coal City—J. R. Sartain, J. W. Randolph, Frank Blanton, Willis Jackson and R. V. Kilgore.

Jasper—W. G. Davis, T. V. Butler, J. M. Williams, W. B. Appling, G. D. O'Rear, J. W. O'Rear and J. H. Longrier.

Gamble Mines—Jno. H. Freeman, B. F. Atkins and James Crocker.

Liberty Grove—A. A. Sides, J. W. Smith, J. M. Sides and John Keeton.

Liberty—C. A. Simms, W. L. Blackwell, L. O. Howell, James Hilton and C. C. Collins.

Mt. Zion—A. J. Hegwood and J. E. Patton.

Mt. Joy—H. G. Amerson, Tolly R. Moore, D. C. Ray and J. M. Kimbrell.

Mt. Carmel—F. M. Harper, Jno. T. Morris, J. A. Sumner, Jno. A. Douglas and D. W. Brown.

New Prospect—W. H. Snoddy, S. G. Cooner, L. P. Kiker, W. T. Brown, Wm. Brakefield, J. L. Wright and J. E. Sherer.

Oakman—S. W. Vice, J. S. Watts, Wm. Cobb and Pleasant Day.

Pleasant Grove—James Rutledge, W. F. Sides, J. J. Steadman, J. H. Hammett, J. B. Grace, B. F. Thomas, W. T. Rutledge, A. S. Sparks and O. C. Miller.

Providence—W. H. Lollar, J. W. Sartain and S. E. Walton.

Pleasant Field—James T. Grace, W. P. Odom and James C. Miner.

Parish—J. H. Stephenson, J. J. Kirkpatrick and J. L. Robinson.

Samaria—J. W. Garner R. F. Sumner, W. T. Sherer, J. M. Deason, and J. B. Sherer.

Sulphur Springs—A. G. Kilgore, Wm. Handley and W. J. Jones.

Townley—J. C. Manasco, D. A. Keeton, R. L. Fike and B. Inman.

Union Grove—L. H. Baker, J. M. Cannon, J. N. Cannon and S. B. Goode.

The Association was permanently organized by the election, by acclamation, of W. B. Applying, Moderator, and J. S. Watts, Clerk. Adjourned for dinner.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association was called to order at 1 p. m. Devotional exercises conducted by Bro. J. A. Sumner.

Petitionary letter and delegate received from Corona (a newly constituted church) J. A. Haggins.

Ministers who are not delegates were invited to seats: W. M. Hicks, W. A. McCain, J. W. Rodgers, Z. J. Amerson, A. G. Mosely, of New Orleans, J. W. Stewart of the Orphanage.

#### RETURN CORRESPONDENCE.

New River Association:—J. M. Kimbrell, J. R. Sartain and H. G. Amerson,

Harmony Grove Association—J. I. McCollum, D. A. Keeton and C. Richardson.

Sulphur Springs Association—W. G. Davis, R. F. Sumner, J. H. Longrier and Jno. T. Morris.

On motion suspended the regular order to hear the report on Orphans' Home. Report on Orphan's home was read by J. H. Longrier and after being discussed by Bro. Jno. W. Stewart was adopted. On motion Bro. Jno. W. Stewart was given unlimited time on the above report.

#### REPORT ON ORPHANS' HOME.

##### TO THE NORTH RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Dear Brethern:—We, your committee on Orphan's Home, beg leave to submit the following report: There is no work that deserves our attention more than does our Orphans' Home. Our Home has been in existence little more than seven years, having received its first inmates on March 10th, 1893. It had an humble beginning and has not been without its trials. But the favor of the Lord has been upon it. Since it began there has been received into it 136 children, from thirty counties as follows: Autauga 2, Barbour 8, Bibb 2, Bullock 1, Butler 3, Chambers 1, Connecuh 2, Covington 8, Escambia 11, Elmore 4, Hale 3, Henry 4, Jackson 1, Jefferson 15, Lamar 1, Lee 10, Limestone 1, Marengo 3, Mobile 2, Monroe 4, Montgomery 8, Morgan 3, Pike 2, Russell 4, Talladega 10, Tallapoosa 2, Tuscaloosa 9, Walker 6, Shelby 1, Dallas 4. Of these 2 boys and 4 girls have died, 2 boys have been apprenticed; 2 boys and 1 girl have been irregularly discharged; 13 boys and 18 girls have been returned to their people; 15 boys and 14 girls have been adopted; leaving 29 boys and 36 girls now inmates of the Home. We learn that the children are under good control, and that their religious and domestic life is carefully looked after. The boys are taught to work on the farm and the girls do various kinds of housework. These children



have to be provided with food and clothing just as the children in other homes. The urgent special need is another building so that the children can be properly cared for when they are sick and isolated in cases of contagious diseases. It takes about ten dollars a day for their regular expenses. They have no income except the free will offerings of their friends. Your committee commends them to the prayerful support of our churches, "In as much as ye have done it to one of the least of these, ye have done it to me."

Respectfully Submitted,

COMMITTEE.

Then a collection was taken for the Orphans' Home amounting to \$17.63.

The Moderator announced the following committee, to wit:

On Religious Exercises—J. A. Huggins, W. G. Davis, J. L. Wright and the deacons of Pleasant Grove church.

On Documents and Requests—J. H. Longerier, W. F. Sides and J. I. McCollum.

On Nominations—Wm. Cobb, J. M. Williams and Dr. T. P. Deweese.

On Finance—G. D. O'Rear, H. G. Amerson and W. H. Snoddy.

Report on Sunday Schools was read by J. W. Stewart. After being discussed by J. W. Stewart, W. B. Appling, James Hilton and W. A. McCain was adopted.

Reports of Superintendent of Sunday School districts was made verbally by W. G. Davis, of the first, and S. W. Vice, of the second districts.

Report on Sunday Schools—The work of the Sunday school has become one of the great means of inculcating gospel truth. Your committee urges the importance of all our churches having Sunday schools and think that those which have them already should strive to make them more efficient. Before the greatest possible good can be accomplished in Sunday school work there must be a superintendant who is energetic, vigilant and tireless, and every class must have a teacher who feels the responsibility of the spiritual welfare of the class entrusted to him. We recommend that all our schools secure their literature from our Sunday School Board at Nashville, Tenn.

Respectfully Submitted,

S. W. VICE, Chairman.

Report of Baptist Young Peoples' Union was read by J. S. Watts and after being discussed by J. I. McCollum, Z. J. Amerson and many others was adopted. Speeches on the above report were limited to five minutes.

Report of B. Y. P. U.—Your committee on Baptist Young Peoples' Union submit the following report: Dear brethren, the B. Y. P. U. of Alabama is carrying on an active campaign for the enlargement of its work in the state. The recent convention held at Union Springs was the largest in its history. Great enthusiasm and spirituality marked its sessions. It was unanimously decided to make an effort to organize in every city, village and country church a B. Y. P. U. But we are sorry to report that there are

only two Unions in our entire Association. The object of the Union is to secure an increased spirituality of our Baptist young people; their stimulation to christian service; their education in Baptist doctrine and history and their enlistment in all missionary activity through existing denominational organizations. Now we hope to be able to report a B. Y. P. U. in each church in the Association by next year.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. S. WATTS, Chairman.

On motion the regular order was suspended to hear the reports on missions first on Wednesday morning.

On motion Bro. W. A. McCain was selected to preach the Associational sermon tonight.

Adjourned till 8:30 Wednesday morning.

Wednesday—Morning session at 8:30 a. m. Met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional exercises consisting of singing "Home of the Soul" and prayer by O. C. Miller.

On motion it was decided to allow the first speaker on all subjects 15 minutes. All other speakers 5 minutes.

On motion it was decided that A. G. Mosely preach the missionary sermon instead of Rev. James Hilton.

Report on state missions read by W. G. Davis. Report on home missions read by A. G. Mosely. Report on foreign missions read by J. H. Longier. The above reports were discussed jointly by A. G. Mosely, J. H. Longier, W. M. Hicks and others, then adopted.

Report on State Missions—We your committee on state missions beg leave to submit the following report:

If there ever was a time it is now at hand that we should be fully aroused to this God given work on state missions, this includes the work in our community, among our own people. We should ask ourselves what our duty to our fellows are. What God would have us do in the way of carrying his word and work to those who do not know Him. We have no employed missionary in the bounds of this Association for the past year and we recommend that the Association endeavor to put a man in the field immediately to carry on this work of God.

Respectfully Submitted,

W. G. DAVIS, Chairman.

Report on Home Missions—The Home Mission Board confined its labors to the destitute regions in our southern states and the island of Cuba. The lines of work pursued are five-fold.

1. WORK IN THE ISLAND OF CUBA—In a providential way this work of given the gospel to Cuba was thrown upon the Southern Baptists and the results achieved through the efforts of Diaz and others have called forth the admiration of the world. All religious work there was thrown into confusion by the late war in the island, but now it is being taken up again and we look confidently for large numbers of that priest-ridden country to be turned unto the Lord through the preaching of saving truth by our missionaries.

2. WORK ON OUR FRONTIER—The long strip of country extending down through the Indian Territory, Oklahoma and Texas is

being constantly filled with recruits from our more eastern states and through the efforts of our toiling missionaries this new country is being taken for God and the Baptists. In some of our Indian tribes one out of every six is a member of a Baptist church and they are men of God fearing lives. Our work on the frontier pays largely.

3 THE MOUNTAIN WORK—In eastern Kentucky and Tennessee and western North Carolina there is a large strip of mountain country that is being worked by the missionaries of our Home Board. It is naturally a Baptist country and must be cultivated by Baptists.

4 WORK AMONG THE NEGROES—This consists not in an effort to evangelize, for their own preachers are doing that, but it is our effort to help their ministers by holding institutes for their instruction. The northern Baptist furnish means to assist in this work.

5 WORK IN OUR LARGE CITIES—Some of our large cities such as Baltimore, St. Louis and New Orleans are sadly destitute of pure christianity. And the Baptists of these cities are too few in number to do the needed work. They must be helped by their brethern of the whole south. Think of New Orleans with nearly three hundred thousand souls and only eight hundred members of white Baptist churches. The report on this work of last year's Association will show you the large results that are being obtained on all of our Home Mission fields. The hand of God is in this work and his blessings are seen upon it. Your committee most heartily commends this work, and recommend that all of our pastors preach to their churches at some time during the coming year a special sermon on Home Missions and urge a collection for the support of the work.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. A. SIDES, Chairman.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS—Your committee believe that there has never been a time when foreign missions were so full of interest as now. The past year has been one of great blessing upon this department of our work. We have on the field, missionaries 94, native assistants 133, churches 113, stations 155, baptisms 1341, membership 6537, day schools 43, scholars 1278, Sunday school scholars 2408. The receipts of the board for the past year were \$140,102. Contributions from native churches \$7,094. The Southern Baptist Convention at Louisville, Kentucky, voted to increase the work twenty-five per cent. As a result the Lord gave us an increase of members of over fifty per cent. Brethren we verily believe that the Lord is with us, and shall not we as a part of the great Baptist host address ourselves more earnestly to this all important work. God grant that we may.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. H. LONGCRIER, Chairman.

Then a collection was taken for missions amounting to \$12.85. Sister James Hilton sent fifty cents for Foreign missions.

On motion it was ordered that ten dollars of the collection for missions be given to A. G. Mosely for church building in New Orleans, and that the remaining \$2.85 be given to Bro. J. A. Huggins for his church at Corona.

Report on temperance was read by Bro. L. H. Baker: Was spoken to by Z. J. Amerson, W. M. Hicks, S. W. Vice, J. I. McCollum, John T. Morris, J. R. Sartain and then adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE—We your committee on Temperance submit the following report: We find that wine is indeed a mocker, and strong drink is raging, and many are being deceived thereby. We deplore the fact that intoxicant drinks are being bought and sold in our midst, that men are being made drunk and to commit all sorts of crime. The work of the churches of our country is not only hindered, but we find our ballot box is corrupted, and the moral standing of our country lowered. We consider the liquor traffic one of the greatest evils abroad in the land, and believe that it should be driven from among us. Therefore we recommend total abstinence on the part of each and every member of the Baptist churches of our country. We believe that the Baptist people, who have ever been leaders in great reforms, must take the lead in the fight against this evil. We earnestly pray that all Baptists will taste not, handle not the unclean thing.

Respectfully Submitted,

L. H. BAKER, Chairman.

Adjourned for one hour.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 1:30 p. m., met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional exercises conducted by Bro. J. R. Sartain.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS EXERCISES—Bro. W. M. Hicks to preach at 4 p. m., at or near the public well.

It was moved that the Moderator appoint a committee to draw up resolutions of respect to the memory of Brethren W. P. and Wm. Randolph, deceased. Committee: James Hilton, A. A. Sides and William Patton.

Report on Denominational Education was read by Bro. G. D. O'Rear and after discussion by J. H. Longier was adopted.

#### REPORT ON DENOMINATIONAL EDUCATION.

Your Committee on Denominational Education submit the following: Education—What should it be? It should be training of the minds and hearts of our young men and women that would give them the best rounded character mentally and morally; intellectually, education should be deep and broad. Proper education uplifts individuals and nations, while ignorance is the root of vice and degradation, therefore we ought to educate, and we think and believe that we ought to put more stress on Denominational Education—and we think the first and most important step in this direction is a consecrated Baptist home where the Bible is read and taught in the family circle, where everlasting and never-to-be-forgotten impressions are made, and then we ought to have a Baptist Sunday School in every church and community where our consecrated men and women can meet and instruct our children in the foot-prints of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and again we ought as far as possible to provide denominational literature for our families, which we fear is greatly neglected in our bounds. We believe seed thus sown will be gathered up many days hence in the shape of a large crop of young Baptists all over this land of ours, and again when we come to round up our literary education we



ought not to neglect our denomination colleges and seminaries, because we think it is the part of every good and loyal Baptist to patronize them in preference to secular schools. We take pleasure in recommending the Judson at Marion, and the Central Female College at Tuscaloosa for our girls, and the Howard at East Lake for our boys, the Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., for the further equipment of our ministerial students.

Respectfully submitted,

G. D. O'REAR, Chairman.

Report on Religious Literature was read by Bro. J. I. McCollum and after discussion was adopted.

#### REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

We recommend the Southern Baptist Helps for our Sunday Schools, The Alabama Baptist, Baptist Standard and the Western Recorder for our homes, and the Baptist Union, published at Chicago and the publications of the Baptist Mission Rooms at Baltimore for our Baptist Young People's Unions. We are living in an age when the printing press is turning out millions of books annually, good, bad and indifferent. It is a difficult matter for the best improved to select out of this confused mass wholesome reading matter for our young people. They will read something. If we fail to provide the best, they are almost sure to get the worst; for satan and his angels are more active and energetic in sowing tares than the good are to sow wheat. The Holy Spirit hath said, "The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light."—Luke 16:18. Then it is clearly the duty of christian parents to occupy the ground first. If we can first store the mind with useful knowledge, there will not only be no room for vice, but there will be no taste for it. Let us select the best and store the mind with good and useful knowledge.

Respectfully submitted,

J. I. MCCOLLUM, Chairman.

#### REPORT ON PRAYER AND PRAYER MEETINGS.

We, your Committee on Prayer Meetings, beg leave to make the following report: We find on examination of the Statistics of the churches of the North River Association that out of a total of twenty-seven churches that only nine have prayer meetings. Brethren this ought not to be. Every church that wants and expects to accomplish anything in the Masters cause should have a LIVE EVERGREEN prayer meeting. We are commanded to pray without ceasing and in everything to give thanks unto the Lord. Prayer is the key that opens up the blessings of Heaven to us, and we recommend that every church that has not a prayer meeting, and can possibly do so to organize a weekly prayer meeting at once.

Respectfully submitted,

C. C. COLLINS, Chairman.

#### REPORT ON AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS.

We, your Committee on Aged and Infirm Ministers, find our brother, James Hilton, and we recommend that a collection be taken up by this Association for his aid.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. PATTON, Chairman.

Then a collection was taken for Bro. Hilton. Amount \$9.51.

On motion Bro. W. O. Brown was received as a delegate from Bethabara church without a letter, and \$1 for minutes handed to the Clerk.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT, SEPT. 19, 1900.

Rec'd for State Missions.....	\$ 12.00	Paid Orphans Home.....	\$ 35.45
" " Home " ....	10.50	" W. B. Crumpton for	
" " Foreign " ....	15.33	State Missions..	27.35
" " Orphan's Home...	33.20	" T. H. Kerfoot for	
" " Minutes.....	27.85	Home Missions..	11.25
" " Associational		" R. J. Willingham for	
purpose.....	10.25	Foreign Missions	15.83
" Sunday col. for mission	13.40	" for printing 600 minutes	27.00
" Col. for blank letters.	1.15	" Clerk.....	15.00
" Supplement to asso-		" for Paper and Postage	2.83
ciational fund..	4.75	" for Blank Letters.....	1.25
" from Berry Sta. church	2.40		
" from Townley church	5.50		
		Total amount paid out	\$135.86
Total receipts....	\$136.33	Ballance on hand .....	00.47

Respectfully Submitted,

J. S. WATTS, Treasurer.

Appointed J. S. Watts Treasurer for ensuing year.

#### REPORT ON DOCUMENTS AND REQUESTS.

Your Committee begs leave to report of follows:

1 We recommend that the next session of this Association be held with Providence Church.

2 We recommend that this Association does accept and indorse "Holiness" as it is taught in the Bible; and incorporated in our Articles of Faith; otherwise we will have nothing to do with it.

3 It is the sense of this body that the Pastor of the Church at Gamble Mines has a perfect right to control his own pulpit; he having been elected by said Church as their Spiritual leader.

Respectfully Submitted, Committee.

#### REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We your Committee on nominations submit the following report: To preach the Associational Sermon, C. C. Collins; alternate, Wm. R. Randolph; Missionary Sermon, J. H. Longier; alternate, J. I. McCollum. Delegates to State Convention: J. S. Watts, G. D. O'Rear, R. F. Sumner, W. R. Sawyer, H. G. Amereson, Wm. Patton, J. R. Sartain, J. H. Longier, James Rutledge, L. P. Kiker, C. C. Collins and J. T. Morris. Delegates to Southern Baptist Convention: J. H. Longier; alternate, G. D. O'Rear. Respectfully Submitted. WM. COBB, Chairman.

#### REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The work of this committee for the past year has been in getting up circulars and sending them out, thereby trying to stir up the Churches to a greater zeal along the various lines of our organized work. In connection with this we have held one Fifth Sunday meeting at Townley, Ala. We recommend that this Association at this session formulate and adopt some schedule by which the work of our denomination can be better facilitated by us as an organized body. Respectfully Submitted, Committee.

Resolved, That this body empower its next Executive Committee to formulate some schedule of work, and submit it to the Churches for the work of the ensuing year.

## REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee on Finance submits the following report:

RECEIPTS		CREDITS	
Rec'd. from the different Churches		Paid Treasurer	
for Foreign Missions	\$ 7.80	For Foreign Missions	\$ 7.80
“ Home “	1.40	“ Home “	1.40
“ State “	2.25	“ State “	2.25
“ Minutes	28.90	“ Minutes	28.90
“ Association Purposes	15 00	“ Association purposes	15.00
“ Orphanage	6 95	“ Orphanage	24.58
“ Collections by the Association for Orphanage	17.63	Total	\$ 79.93
Total	\$ 79.93		

Respectfully Submitted,  
G. D. O'REAR, Chairman.

The Moderator announced standing committees to-wit:

On Sunday Schools: W. R. Sawyer, J. T. Morris and Jeff Watts.

Superintendents Sunday School Districts: 1st District, W. G. Davis; 2nd District R. V. Goss; 3rd District, S. W. Vice; 4th District, H. G. Amerson.

On Baptist Young People Union: J. A. Huggins, J. S. Watts, and J. W. O'Rear.

On Temperance: J. H. Longcrier, J. J. Steadman and S. E. Walton.

On State Missions: John H. Freeman, Wm. Cobb and J. J. Phifer.

On Home Missions: J. I. McCollum, J. C. Manasco and L. H. Baker.

On Foreign Missions: James Hilton, J. H. Stephenson and D. A. Keeton.

On Denominational Education. W. G. Davis, O. C. Miller and J. A. Sumner.

On Religious Literature: S. W. Vice, J. M. Williams and J. B. Randolph.

On Orphans' Home: R. F. Sumner, J. R. Sartain and L. P. Kiker.

On Prayer and Prayer Meeting: C. C. Collins, J. W. Sartain and W. T. Rutledge.

On Aged and Infirm Ministers: Wm. Patton, J. M. Kimbrell and J. S. Jones.

Executive Committee: J. H. Longcrier, G. D. O'Rear, S. W. Vice, R. V. Goss and W. F. Sides.

## REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

We your committee on deceased ministers beg leave to report that since our last session two of our beloved brethren have been called to their reward. W. P. Smith was about 66 years of age. He was a faithful man of God; a minister about 34 years. Also William Randolph, who was about 72 years old; also a faithful man and a devoted minister about 25 years. They are no more

upon earth but forever in Heaven. We further recommend that a page in the minutes be given to their memory.

Respectfully Submitted,  
JAMES HILTON, Chairman.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The following resolutions were read and adopted: Resolved, That we extend our hearty and sincere thanks to the brethren and citizens of this community for the hospitable way in which they have entertained this Association. J. I. McCOLLUM.

Resolved, That this body tender its thanks to the Moderator and Clerk for their prompt and efficient services rendered during this session of the Association. G. D. O'REAR.

The Sunday School Convention of the North River Association met with Oakman Church Fifth Sunday in July 1900. Time, place and program of the next Convention was referred to the following committee: W. R. Sawyer, W. G. Davis and J. S. Watts. J. S. WATTS, President.

R. H. WALKER, Sec'y.

On motion the reading of the minutes and roll-call was dispensed with.

After taking the parting hand the Association adjourned to meet with Providence Church on Tuesday before the Fourth Sunday in September, 1901, at 10 o'clock a. m.

W. B. APPLING, Moderator.

J. S. WATTS, Clerk.

## CONSTITUTION.

We, the Baptist Churches of Jesus Christ, are desirous of a reciprocal union; we, therefore propose to maintain the Order and Rules of the Association, according to the following plan:

We believe that the churches of Christ are mutually independent of each other, and that the congregational form of church government should be inviolably preserved; yet being convinced of the utility of friendly intercourse and pious councils on the principles of reciprocal advantage and Christian love, we hold it to be the duty of the churches to pay respect on these principles to the advice of the Association.

1 The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our Union, who, on producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats; the letters so produced shall express the condition of their churches respectively, viz: The number in fellowship, the number received by baptism, by restoration, dismissed, excommunicated, and died, since the last Association, which letters shall be read and the delegates names enrolled.

2 The members thus chosen and convened shall be known by the name of North River Baptist Association.

3 We declare ourselves a missionary body on the Bible plan. The Association may appoint an Executive Committee, whose duty it shall be to employ a missionary, or missionaries, to travel and preach the gospel to the destitute in her bounds, and to en-



large the field of labor, if necessary; and to take charge of all the money paid over by the several churches for the support of the mission, also said treasurer shall make a correct report at each and every annual session of this body, of all money received, expenditures and the surplus on hand, if any, which report shall be affixed to the Minutes of the Association.

4 The Association thus formed, shall choose, by ballot a Moderator and Clerk, who shall serve one year.

5 This body shall have no coercive power to lord it over God's heritage, or to infringe on any of the internal privileges or rights of the churches in our Union; but shall only be considered an advisory council in all matters respecting their internal concerns.

6 To give the churches the best advice she can in all matters of difficulty, and if the Union should be broken between any of the churches, to inquire into the cause of the breach, and to use her best endeavors to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be repaired, to withdraw from any church or churches which they may look upon to be unsound in principle, or immoral in practice, until the same be reclaimed.

7 To take up no case of any church in our Union without the consent of a majority of the churches.

8 Newly constituted or dismissed churches may be received into our Union by their representatives, as before stated, and the Moderator shall signify the same by giving the right hand of fellowship.

9 The Association, when convened, shall be governed by such rules as she may adopt. She may adjourn from day to day until she shall have finished all the business that may be brought before her.

10 Every church numbering fifty members or less, shall be entitled to three lay members as delegates; and for every twenty-five members over fifty, one lay member as delegate, and elect any ordained minister, in addition thereto, that she may hold in her membership, if she choose.

11 To have the Minutes of the Association read and altered, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises, and have them printed, if she think proper.

12 The Association shall in all cases be governed by a majority of the members.

13 Voting shall be confined exclusively to the body in all acts respecting their internal concerns.

14 To amend the plan or form of government at any time when a majority of the Union shall deem it necessary.

## DECLARATION OF FAITH.

On the Scriptures.—We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will Judge us; and therefore is

and remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

2 Of the True God.—That there is one true and living God, whose name is Jehovah, the maker and the supreme ruler of heaven and earth, inexpressibly glorious in holiness; worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; revealed under the personal and relative distinction of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious office in the great work of redemption.

3 On the Fall of Man.—That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his Maker, but voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but by choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness, required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan, and their own sinful passions, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse.

4 Of the Way of Salvation.—That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the law by his personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death, being arisen from the dead he is enthroned in Heaven, and uniting in this wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and all sufficient Saviour.

5 Of Justification.—That the great Gospel Blessing, which Christ of his fulness bestows on such as believe in Him, is justification; that justification consists in the pardon of sin and the promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness, that it is not bestowed in consideration of any work of righteousness which we have done, but solely through its own redemption and righteousness, that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

6 Of the Freeness of Salvation.—That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ; which refusal will submit him to an aggravated condemnation.

7 Of Grace and Regeneration.—That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated and born again; that the regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind and is affected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation, by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel, and that its proper evidence is our voluntary obedience found in the holy fruit which we bring forth to the glory of God.

8 Of God's Purpose of Grace.—That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the moral agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end;

that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy and unchangeable, that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of His free mercy, that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is ascertained by its effects in all who believe in the Gospel; it is the foundation of christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

9. Of the Perseverance of Saints.—That such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare, and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

10. Harmony of the law and gospel.—That the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and the inability which the scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the Holy Law, is one great end of the gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of His visible church.

11. Of a gospel church.—That a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the ordinance of Christ; governed by His laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only proper officers are bishops or pastors and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistle to Timothy and Titus.

12. Of baptism and the Lord's Supper.—That Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit; to show forth in solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Saviour; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation, and the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.

13. Of the Christian Sabbath.—That the first day of the week is the Lord's day, or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and recreation by devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for the rest which remaineth for the people of God.

14. Of Civil Government.—That civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest and good of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except in things opposed to the will of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of conscience and the prince of the kings of the earth

15. Of the Righteous and Wicked.—That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such as only through faith are justified in the name of the

Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of God, are truly righteous in his esteem, while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked, and under the curse, and this distinction holds among men in and after death.

16 Of the World to Come.—That the end of this world is approaching, and that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a separation will then take place, that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in Heaven, or in Hell, on principles of righteousness.



## RULES OF DECORUM.



1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. But one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator.
3. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the question, or use words of personal reflection.
4. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except withdrawn by him who made it.
5. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another is offered.
6. When any question is taken up by this Association after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays, or otherwise; and the decision thus made shall be announced by the Moderator immediately.
7. No person shall depart from the service of the Association without leave of the Moderator.
8. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave obtained.
9. The appellation of brother shall be used in our addresses one to another.
10. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privileges as any other member, provided he appoints some other member to his seat while speaking or otherwise, but shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided.
11. Any member violating the above rules may be reprovved as the Association may think proper, only on the day the offense shall have occurred.



IN MEMORY OF



WILLIAM P. SMITH,

WHO WAS BORN MARCH 7TH, 1834,

AND DIED JUNE 3RD, 1900.

WAS A BAPTIST MINISTER FOR 34 YEARS.



AND

WILLIAM RANDOLPH,

WAS BORN FEBRUARY 18TH, 1828,

AND DIED MARCH 20TH, 1900.

WAS A MEMBER OF THE JASPER BAPTIST CHURCH,

AND WAS A MINISTER ABOUT 30 YEARS.

THEY ARE GONE TO THEIR REWARD.

# FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF NORTH RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1900.

CHURCHES.	MISSIONS						HOME EXPENSES.				TOTAL For all purposes	Value of Property
	State Cash and Voucher.	Home Cash and Voucher.	Foreign Cash and Voucher	Church Bld'g not home Cash Vouch'r	Associational Cash and Voucher.	Orphan's Home Cash and Voucher.	Minutes	Pastor's Salary.	Repairs and New Buildings	Poor, Fuel, Schools, etc		
Bethabara ....	50	50	25	sent'd	...	1 00	1 00	2 00	...	...	1 00	500 00
Bethlehem. ....	Not rep'd	50	sent'd	...	...	...	75	...	...	...	5 00	500 00
Bethel ....	Not rep'd	50	sent'd	...	...	...	95	5 71	...	...	6 66	800 00
Berry Station..	4 00	3 00	4 00	...	1 00	3 25	2 00	208 30	55 00	78 35	358 90	700 00
Carbon Hill ...	...	...	...	...	50	...	1 00	...	...	9 00	10 50	400 00
Coal City. ....	70	65	65	...	...	...	1 00	...	...	...	3 00	400 00
Corona. ....	...	...	...	...	65	...	1 25	40 00	225 00	...	266 90	400 00
Gamble Mines.	13 91	13 91	13 91	2 51	2 50	33 41	3 50	614 00	1058 63	97 31	1905 34	3250 00
Jasper. ....	Not rep'd	...	sent'd	...	50	...	1 00	27 45	117 39	...	148 43	239 28
Lebanon. ....	...	...	1 55	...	50	...	1 00	...	...	...	1 50	400 00
Liberty Grove..	...	...	...	...	50	...	1 30	20 00	...	...	24 00	300 00
Liberty. ....	...	...	...	...	...	...	75	65 52	63 63	30 00	150 15	300 00
Mt. Zion. ....	...	...	3 25	...	5	1 00	1 50	...	...	...	...	300 00
Mt. Joy. ....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 50	47 75	...	8 75	57 00	300 00
Mt. Carmel ....	Not rep'd	2 00	sent'd	3 00	50	1 15	1 50	135 15	...	16 43	183 93	1000 00
New Hope ....	1 10	10 50	3 00	1 00	1 50	3 70	1 50	...	...	...	3 00	800 00
New Prospect..	12 15	...	...	...	1 00	...	2 00	47 25	...	...	43 75	300 00
Pleasant Grove.	...	...	...	...	25	...	1 00	...	...	...	1 25	300 00
Providence ...	...	...	...	...	50	...	1 00	...	...	...	1 50	300 00
Pleasant Field.	...	...	...	...	50	...	1 00	...	...	...	...	300 00
Parrish. ....	...	...	...	...	1 25	...	1 00	45 88	...	...	49 38	300 00
Samaria. ....	...	...	...	...	1 00	...	1 50	20 00	...	...	22 15	500 00
Salphursprings	55	25	1 00	...	1 00	2 15	1 25	...	...	...	6 20	500 00
Towoley. ....	50	...	1 10	...	2 80	1 30	75	18 00	...	...	21 65	800 00
Union Grove...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Col. at Associa'n	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total. ....	\$33 41	\$30 81	\$31 71	\$3 51	\$15 00	\$48 46	\$29 90	1297 01	1519 65	239 88	3977 49	11889 28

# STATISTICS OF NORTH RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1900.

CHURCH.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S POSTOFFICE.	Membership last reported.	Inc'd by baptism.	Inc'd by letter...	Inc'd by rest'r't'n	Dec'd by letter ..	Dec'd by exclusi'n	Dec'd by erasure.	Dec'd by death...	Present Membership.	Offi.& teach'rs	Pupils. ....	Superintendent's Name and Postoffice.	Preaching Sabbaths.	Rep'ts pr'y'r meet	Reports revival..
Bethabara. ....	Fayette ..	G W Baker...	W A Kimbrell	Berry Station	40								43	4	40	E H Pool, Berry Station.	2		
Bethlehem. ....	Tuscaloosa.	J T Jones...	J S Jones ...	Berry Station..	40				2		1	2	35						
Bethel. ....	"	Not represented.	Not represented.	"	25								25						
Berry Station...	Fayette.	L H Baker...	L F Gammon	Berry Station...	27	3			3				25						
Carbon Hill...	Walker ..	J I McCollum	Harry Hunter	Carbon Hill...	94	16	20	4	6			1	127	6	107	J W Wilson, Carbon Hill	1-3	1	1
Coal City. ....	"	J R Sartain..	J W Randolph	Jasper.	76								70				2-4		
Corona. ....	"	James Hilton	J A Huggins.	Corona									10			J A Huggins, Corona.			
Gamble Mines..	"	J H Longier	C C Butler.	Gamble Mines.	21	3	4	1			2		27				1		
Jasper. ....	"	J H Longier	C C Butler.	Jasper	193	15			12		13	2	181	9	109	W R Sawyer, Jasper...	123-4		
Lebanon. ....	"	Not represented.	Not represented.	"	41								41						
Liberty Grove..	"	C C Collins	L L McCullar	Lucky	63	4	9		5			1	69				3	1	1
Liberty ..	"	C C Collins	A M Hyde.	Nauvoo	55	5	5		4				61			Sunday Sunday.	3	1	1
Mt. Zion ..	Fayette.	Wm Patton..	N Thacker.	Patton	68	1	5						73				4	1	1
Mt. Joy.....	Walker ....	L H Baker...	H G Amerson	Toledo	64				8				55				3		
Mt. Carmel...	"	J W Rogers.	J T Morris..	Cordova.	136	16	5		24		5	2	120	7	75	J A Douglas, Cordova.	1	1	1
New Hope.....	"	Not represented.	Not represented.	"	52								52						
New Prospect..	Walker ....	J H Longier	J E Sherer.	Jasper.	107		2		4			1	102				1-3	1	1
Oakman. ....	"	F H Watkins	J S Watts.	Oakman.	124				18		4	3	98			69 J S Watts, Oakman.	4	1	
Pleasant Grove	"	Wm Patton..	W F Sides	Jasper	186		5						1	190			2	1	1
Providence....	"	James Hilton	W M Watts	Oakman.	89		5	1	2				93			J W Sartain, Oakman	3		
Pleasant Field	"	Wm Patton.	B F Sides.	Oakman.	33	8	1						39			Sunday School.	1		
Parrish .....	"	H A Key.	J H Robinson	Parrish	33				4				28						
Samaria. ....	"	J W Rogers.	R F Sumner.	Cordova.	120				4		2	2	110				4		
Sulphur Springs	Fayette	A Kilgore.	W J Jones	Oakman.	35	7			3			1	36				4	1	1
Townley .....	Walker ....	O C Miller.	B Inman	Towuley.	73	2	1	1			1	16	60				1	1	1
Union Grove...	Fayette....	A Kilgore...	S B Goode....	Berry Station..	36	6	3		5				39				1		1
Total.....					1779	65	80	2	6	104	23	34	26	1814	40	476		10	9





# STATISTICS OF NORTH RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1900.

CHURCH.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S POSTOFFICE.	SUNDAY SCHOOL.				Present Membership.	Dec'd by death..	Dec'd by erasure..	Dec'd by exclusi'n	Dec'd by letter ..	Inc'd by rest'r't'n	Inc'd by voucher.	Inc'd by letter...	Inc'd by baptism.	Membership last reported.	CLERK'S POSTOFFICE.	CLERK.	PASTOR.	COUNTY.	CHURCH.
					Off.& teach'rs	Pupils. ....	Superintendent's Name and Postoffice.	Preaching Sabbaths.															
Bethabara. ....	Fayette	G W Baker	W A Kimbrell	Berry Station	43	40			43									40	Berry Station	W A Kimbrell	G W Baker	Fayette	Bethabara. ....
Bethlehem .....	Tuscaloosa.	J T Jones.	J S Jones	Berry Station..	35	40	E H Pool, Berry Station.	2	35		1	2						40	Berry Station..	J S Jones	J T Jones.	Tuscaloosa.	Bethlehem .....
Bethel .....	"	Not repre	sented	"	25	25			25									25	"			"	Bethel .....
Berry Station....	Fayette.	L H Baker....	L F Gammon	Berry Station..	25	25			25									25	Berry Station..	L F Gammon	L H Baker....	Fayette.	Berry Station....
Carbon Hill. ....	Walker	J I McCollum	Harry Hunter	Carbon Hill....	94	107	J W Wilson, Carbon Hill	1-3	127		1	6		4				94	Carbon Hill....	Harry Hunter	J I McCollum	Walker	Carbon Hill. ....
Coal City .....	"	J R Sartain..	JW Randolph	Jasper. ....	76	107		2-4	70		5	1						76	Jasper. ....	JW Randolph	J R Sartain..	"	Coal City .....
Corona. ....	"	J A Huggins	J A Huggins	Corona	10	10	J A Huggins, Corona..		10									10	Corona	J A Huggins	J A Huggins	"	Corona. ....
Gamble Mines..	"	James Hilton	J H Freeman	Gamble Mines.	27	27			27		2							27	Gamble Mines.	J H Freeman	James Hilton	"	Gamble Mines..
Jasper. ....	"	J H Longrier	C C Butler.	Jasper	193	181	W R Sawyer, Jasper.	1234	181		13	2		1				193	Jasper	C C Butler.	J H Longrier	"	Jasper. ....
Lebanon. ....	"	Not repre	sented	Jasper	41	41			41									41	Jasper	Not repre	sented	"	Lebanon. ....
Liberty Grove..	"	C C Collins	L L McCullar	Lucky	63	61			69		5	1						63	Lucky	L L McCullar	C C Collins	"	Liberty Grove..
Liberty .....	"	C C Collins	A M Hyde.	Nauvoo	55	5			61		4							55	Nauvoo	A M Hyde.	C C Collins	"	Liberty .....
Mt. Zion .....	"	Wm Patton.	N Thacker.	Patton	68	1			73									68	Patton	N Thacker.	Wm Patton.	"	Mt. Zion .....
Fayette.....	Fayette.	L H Baker.	H G Amerson	Toledo.	64	55			55		8							64	Toledo.	H G Amerson	L H Baker.	Fayette.	Fayette.....
Walker ....	Walker	J W Rogers.	J T Morris.	Cordova. ....	136	120	J A Douglas, Cordova.		120		5	2						136	Cordova. ....	J T Morris.	J W Rogers.	Walker	Walker ....
New Hope.	"	Not repre	sented	"	52	52			52									52	"			"	New Hope.
New Prospect..	Walker	J H Longrier	J E Sherer.	Jasper	107	102			102		4	2						107	Jasper	J E Sherer.	J H Longrier	Walker	New Prospect..
Oakman. ....	"	F H Watkins	J S Watts	Oakman.	124	98			98		18	4						124	Oakman.	J S Watts	F H Watkins	"	Oakman. ....
Pleasant Grove	"	Wm Patton.	W F Sides	Jasper	186	190			190									186	Jasper	W F Sides	Wm Patton.	"	Pleasant Grove
Providence....	"	James Hilton	W M Watts.	Oakman.	89	93			93		5	1						89	Oakman.	W M Watts.	James Hilton	"	Providence....
Pleasant Field	"	Wm Patton.	B F Sides....	Oakman.	33	39			39									33	Oakman.	B F Sides....	Wm Patton.	"	Pleasant Field
Parrish .....	"	H A Key. ....	J H Robinson	Parrish	33	28			28		4							33	Parrish	J H Robinson	H A Key. ....	"	Parrish .....
Samarla. ....	"	J W Rogers.	R F Sumner.	Cordova	120	110			110		4	2						120	Cordova	R F Sumner.	J W Rogers.	"	Samarla. ....
Sulphur Springs	Fayette.	A Kilgore	W J Jones	Oakman	35	36			36		3	2						35	Oakman	W J Jones	A Kilgore	Fayette.	Sulphur Springs
Townley.....	Walker	O C Miller.	B Inman	Townley.	73	2			60		1	16						73	Townley.	B Inman	O C Miller.	Walker	Townley.....
Union Grove...	Fayette....	A Kilgore...	S B Goode....	Berry Station..	36	39			39		5	1						36	Berry Station..	S B Goode....	A Kilgore...	Fayette....	Union Grove...
Total.....																			Total.....				
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